

## Promoting Economic and Career Success for Low-Income Youth and Adults

### Excerpts from CLASP's WIOA Game Plan

On April 16, 2015, the U.S. Departments of Education and Labor published draft regulations for Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA) in the Federal Register, marking an important milestone in WIOA implementation. The public comment period of 60 days ended June 15, 2015. The Departments will analyze these public comments and anticipate issues Final Rules implementing WIOA in early 2016.

The Adult Education and the Family Literacy Act under Title II of WIOA contains the following key priority topics in the proposed WIOA regulations:

**Career Pathways and Title II.** English as a Second Language (ESL) is broadened to ELA (English Language Acquisition) and the proposal would require that “the program leads to attainment of a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent and transition to postsecondary education and training or leads to employment.” To meet this requirement, a program must do one of three things:

- ◇ Align with state adult education content standards
- ◇ Offer supportive services to promote attainment of a high school diploma or high school equivalency certificate and assist with the transition to postsecondary education or employment
- ◇ Be part of a career pathway

**Partnership:** Under the proposed legislation, AEFLA applications will be awarded based on criteria including the extent of “alignment between proposed activities and services and the strategy and goals of the local (WIOA Title 1) plan”; if activities “provide learning in context, including through integrated education and training”; and if the “provider coordinates with other available education, training and social service resources in the community.” Those entities will include secondary, postsecondary, local workforce boards, one-stops, community-based organizations, and more.

For more information, go to [www.clasp.org/wioagameplan](http://www.clasp.org/wioagameplan)



# Nevada's Rhea Watson Elected to Lead Region for National Adult Education Advocacy Group

## Commission on Adult Basic Education Announces New Members of Leadership Team

The nation's top professional organization for adult education announced new additions to its leadership team, including a Nevada expert in the field. The announcements come as the Commission on Adult Basic Education (COABE) renews its effort to raise awareness of the wide-ranging impacts of adult education and to support adult learners and educators across the country.

Rhea M. Watson, an adult education advocate and who currently works as a literacy trainer for the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District (CALL), was elected the Commission on Adult Basic Education's Region 7 representative by the organization's national membership. She will represent Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming at national board meetings.

"Rhea comes to the board at a critical time as we adopt new strategies to help the millions of adults in this country that need our services to advance their education, find jobs and support their families," said Tom Nash, who takes over as COABE president July 1. "Her expertise in the field will be a tremendous asset as we work to achieve our mission."

Rhea joins three other new officers to the 14-member voting board, who will assume their duties on July 1. "We've created innovative ways to reach, assist and train adult learners in Nevada, but we know there are so many others that need our assistance," Rhea said. "Adult education is an issue that goes to the heart of our economy and we want to make sure we reach all people who need our services."

She serves approximately 400 students a year and is skilled in recruiting and retaining hard-to-reach populations among the Adult Education Community. Many trainers at the national, state and local levels have benefited from Rhea's tutelage, who specializes in sharing strategies and tools that help others reach challenged populations. She is a recipient of multiple grant, scholarship, and leadership awards due to her dedication to underserved populations.

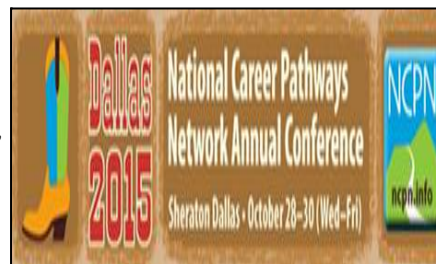
"COABE provides crucial services to adult educators," Rhea said. "We are proud to represent our members, and we are committed to improving their working conditions and the lives of our students."



# National Career Pathways Conference

## Features Government Leaders

This year's National Career Pathways Network conference theme is ***Building Alliances: The Future is Here!*** The conference will be at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel in downtown Dallas, Texas, from Oct. 28-30, 2015. This year's conference is dedicated to the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) *10 Component Framework for Career Pathways* and the Department of Labor's (DOLETA) *Six Key Elements of Career Pathways*. The conference will highlight the work of three agencies: *U.S. Departments of Education, Labor, and Health and Human Services* to come together to present their collaborative work in career pathways. The featured speakers will include:



**Mark Greenberg**, Acting Assistant Secretary for the Administration of Children and Families. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

**Johan E. Uvin**, Acting Assistant Secretary for the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education. U.S. Department of Education

**Gerri Fiala**, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training. U.S. Department of Labor

The NCPN conference will focus on career pathways implementation at the state and local levels. More than 1,200 attendees are expected to attend representing a *broad cross-section of stakeholders including secondary and postsecondary educators, workforce development and employers*. The conference will highlight and support the U.S. Departments of Education, Labor, and Health and Human Services work in the career pathways arena including:

- April 2012 joint letter
- DOLETA Six Key Elements in Career Pathways
- OCTAE Program of Study's 10 Components
- National Request for information
- National Dialogues
- Each agency's investments in Career Pathways
- Interagency Work and investments
- Aligning current and forthcoming legislation

For more information, visit [www.ncpn.info](http://www.ncpn.info).

## Please give us your input on *Nevada Connections*!

We welcome your suggestions for stories and input on this newsletter. Please contact Susan Robinson with suggestions, ideas, and input at [director@nnlc.org](mailto:director@nnlc.org) or call 775.356.1007.

Nevada Connections is also available at <http://nvedu.org/nc>.

Northern Nevada Literacy Council  
1400 Wedekind Road  
Reno, NV 89512



NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
RENO, NEVADA  
PERMIT # 625

Nevada Connections is a State Leadership activity/professional development project funded by a grant from the Nevada State Department of Education, Workforce Investment Act, Title II (Adult Education and Family Literacy). There is no discrimination or denial of participation on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion or religious creed, national origin, sexual orientation, ancestry, or disability.

## Calendar of Key Adult Education Conferences

**What:** Adult Education and Family Literacy Week, Sept. 20-26, 2015

**Contact:** [www.proliteracy.org](http://www.proliteracy.org)

**What:** National Career Pathways Network Annual Conference, October 28-30, 2015, Dallas, TX

**Contact:** [www.ncpn.info](http://www.ncpn.info)

**What:** National College Transition Network, November 9-11, 2015, Providence, R.I.

**Contact:** [www.collegetransitions.org/conference.overview](http://www.collegetransitions.org/conference.overview)

**What:** American Association for Adult and Continuing Education, November 15-17, 2015, Oklahoma City, OK

**Contact:** <http://www.aaace.org/>



[www.facebook.com/NevadaAdultEd](https://www.facebook.com/NevadaAdultEd)

[www.twitter.com/NevadaAdultEdu](https://www.twitter.com/NevadaAdultEdu)

[www.nevadaadulthoodeducation.org](http://www.nevadaadulthoodeducation.org)